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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/49/610/Add.2)]

49/182. Respect for the universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/

Stressing that, as stated in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, 2/ family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration, and that financial remittances by documented migrants to their countries of origin often constitute a very important source of foreign exchange and are instrumental in improving the well-being of relatives left behind,

1. Calls upon all States to ensure the universally recognized freedom of travel to all foreign nationals legally residing in their territory;

2. Reaffirms that all Governments, particularly those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its integration into their national legislation in order to ensure the protection of the unity of the families of documented migrants;

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ A/CONF.171/13, chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

3. Calls upon all States to allow, in conformity with national legislation, the free flow of financial remittances by foreign nationals residing in their territory to their relatives in the country of origin;

4. Also calls upon all States to discourage and reverse legislation that adversely affects the family reunification of documented migrants and the transfer of financial remittances;

5. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to consider this issue at its fifty-first session.

94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994